

KLN ZINE



THE KENMORE LIBRARY NEWS FOR YOUNG ADULT LIBRARY LOVERS!

HELLO!

BY NORA

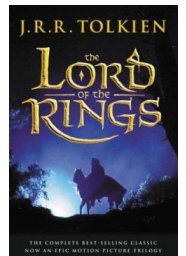
Well ladies, gentlemen, those of you who are neither, those of you who are both, and those of you who are somewhere in between- it's summer. The time of year when the local teenagers who haven't been forced to take summer classes or do extra summer work because they're taking advanced courses are released from their 10 month period of indentured servitude and are allowed to run wild and wreak absolute havoc. The time of year when chaos- pure, unadulterated, chaos -reigns supreme. The time of year when many take refuge at the library and in the written word. Maybe you're here looking for a new book to read, in which case I implore you to read on- we have several excellent recommendations for you to enjoy. Or maybe you're here because you have other nerdy or niche interests, like video games or superheroes, in which case we have articles for you, most of them written by George. Regardless, I think there's something in this issue for everyone. Happy Summer.



ARTWORK BY WILLOW

CHECK THIS OUT!

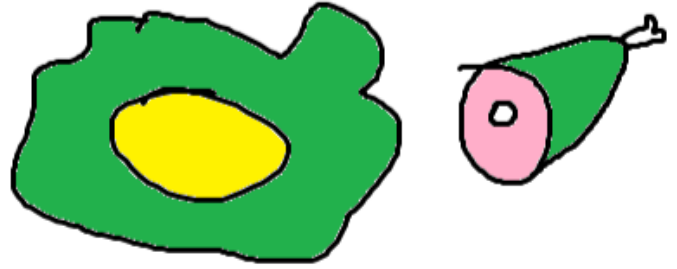
BY WILLOW



Lord of the Rings is one of the best and most famous fantasy series of all time. Dense world-building, an ominous villain, and an impossible quest all combine to create an amazing trilogy that will stay with you forever. There are so many reasons to pursue these books, whether you're a fan of vivid settings, insurmountable odds, or intrepid characters. Enter Middle Earth, and you will not be disappointed.

GEORGE, IZZY AND OLIVE RUIN THE CLASSICS!

BY SEE ABOVE



I: what if there was a guy and he made eggs and ham BUT. they were green.

G: That would actually be the worst thing ever.

O: idk man i think that would be pretty off the charts yo

I: I mean what would even happen. Like everyone would love ham and eggs right? But what if there was another guy who didn't like it.

G: That's me.

O: That guy sucks. Just kidding please don't be mean to me

I: Idc about George being mean. YOU SUCK

G: Ok so first off, rude. Secondly, is no one going to question the reason it's green? Like what did they put in there, Oscar the grouch?

O: that's not a traumatizing image at all. Anyways, the weird food pusher guy with the green eggs and ham gaslight girlboss and gatekeeps the green eggs and ham from the guy who doesn't want it and then he eats it. The end

I: the end. Dr. Seuss's most gaslight gatekeep girlboss character!

G: Thats stupid, like are we supporting terrible people now?

O: yes, yes we are. Especially if they are hot 4'0 creatures with green eggs and ham.

G: Now hear me out, if some RANDO offered me WEIRDLY COLORED FOOD, I simply would NOT EAT IT!!!! Not even if they gaslit me.

I: Actually, in the end, the guy who hated green eggs and ham ended up eating it and loved it. Crazy turnaround of events

O: woo hoo!

G: Hey, anyone wanna try my Red Mac and Cheese?

O: no.

ANIME-MANIA: THE WAY OF THE HOUSE HUSBAND

BY GRAILEY

The Way of the House Husband is a Japanese manga series written and illustrated by Kousuke Oono. It was originally an online manga magazine Kurage Bunch since 2018 but now it's a show. The main character is named Tatsu (nicknamed "The Immortal Dragon") and is retired as an ex-yakuza boss. Tatsu is trying to figure out a way to be a normal house husband (idk if there is a normal way). I like how he is always supportive of his wife Miku trying to pursue her dream of being a fashion designer.



GAMING UNPLUGGED: EXPLODING KITTENS TRY TO STAY... ALIVE

BY ELIZA



Exploding Kittens is a fun card game, great for family and friends. The graphics are great and so is the game. Each of the players get dealt a hand, including a defuse card (which keeps you alive if you get an exploding kitten), shuffle cards, and other hilarious ones. The goal of the game is to stay alive, and not explode, and in the deck are a few exploding kittens- these kill you. If you get one, then you can stay alive with your defuse (if you still have one). The game continues until all are DEAD... except one! This is a great game that never gets old. You can rent this game from the library today! Enjoy!

To see a list of all the games available to request from the library, visit:
<https://www.buffalolib.org/services/gaming-unplugged/gaming-listing>

ANIME-MANIA: KOTARO LIVES ALONE

BY GRAILEY

Kotaro Lives Alone is a Japanese manga series based off the written and illustrated series by Mami Tsumura. It's about a four-year-old boy named Kotaro who lives alone in an apartment building. In the first episode he makes friends with a manga artist who doesn't let Kotaro go anywhere alone (to me it was kind of weird but I get it now). The people in the apartment building all help to take care of Kotaro. It shows how kind people are even with their own problems going on, like how this woman who was helping out with Kotaro is comfortable with kids because of her own trauma as kid. I would recommend this show to older teens so like 14 and up. You can watch this show on Netflix.



Source: <https://www.imdb.com/title/tt15490038/>

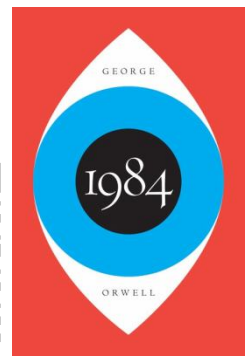
CLASSICALLY GOOD: 1984

BY WILLOW

George Orwell's 1984 is perhaps the single most defining work of dystopian fiction written in the twentieth century. It was one of the first books that would come to inspire a whole sub-genre of literature, as well as providing a whole host of phrases that are still used in conversation to this day ("doublethink" being only one). The book is a message, a warning, and a sharply satirical yet grim prediction of the future as prognosticated in 1949.

In a world where free will is a flaw to be eradicated, just thinking about dissent can be punishable by death (a "thoughtcrime"). When Wilson Smith writes the first entry in his diary, he knows he's already a dead man. After all, it is impossible to defy the Party for long. And yet that does not stop him from embarking on a journey of discovery. As he discovers the depths of his mind, falls in love, and begins to defy the teachings of the tyrannical government more openly, his hope for a brighter future grows. And yet...how long can you disobey an authoritarian regime that claims to watch your every move?

This novel is brilliant and biting, spiritedly defiant and yet a forbidding divination of the future that still rings true to this day. From beginning to end, it is immersive and tense, and anyone who opens it will be sucked into 1984's vivid dystopian world. It will expand your mind and challenge your views, an essential read for anyone who is invested in our future as a society.



IN MY OPINION (I'M RIGHT)

BY GEORGE

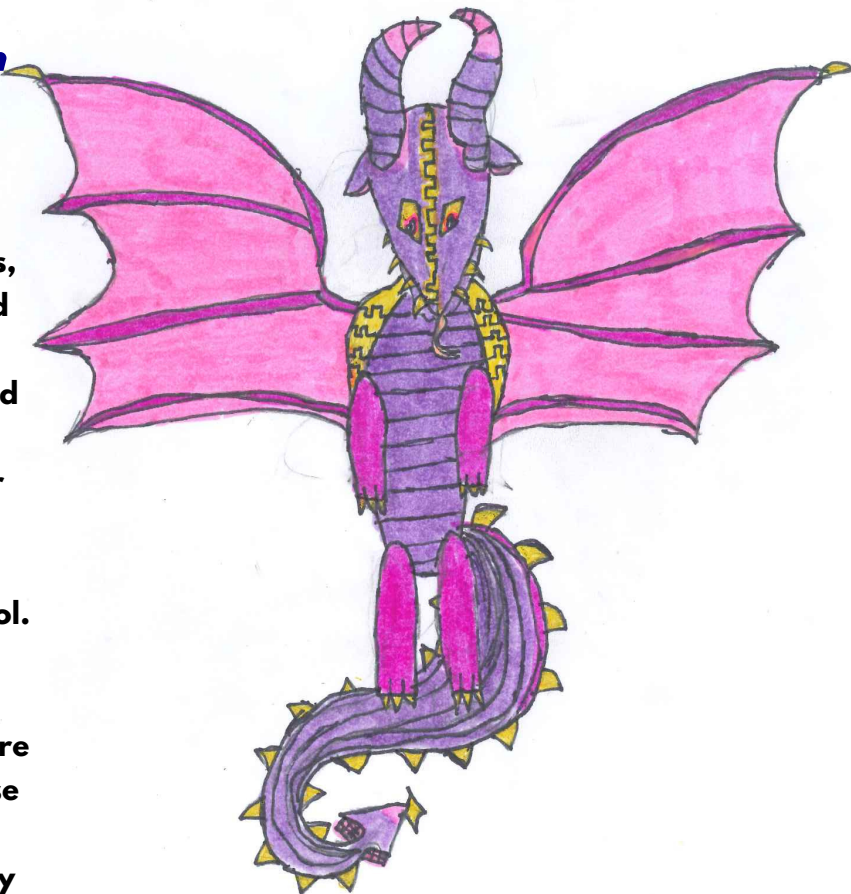
Elon Musk. This man is quite possibly the stupidest person to exist ever. This man is the richest person in the world and makes the worst decisions too. Recently as we all know Musk (did not)* buy Twitter for \$44 billion. WHAT THE HELL?!?!? This man could cure world hunger and do so much good for the world but he decided to buy Twitter. The worst website on the internet was worth \$44 billion.... Think about it though, that's where all the dream stans are, why would anyone spend \$44 billion on that! Apparently, Musk was given a plan to cure world hunger for \$6 billion dollars, and he just didn't take it??? As well as he promised to help Flint with its lead pipe issue, which still is a problem! Elon is a terrible person who could use his wealth for the good of the world but still hasn't and most likely won't. The only reason he's popular is because he makes himself seem like a relatable guy but is still just another disconnected billionaire.

*This article was written in like.... late April.

PLAY LOCAL: KINGPIN COMICS

**BY GEORGE
ILLUSTRATED BY IZZY**

Do you like comics, Dungeons and Dragons, and other things like that? Well you should head over to Kingpin Comics! It's a small local comic shop over on Delaware Ave and in a little plaza near Coventry and Canterbury! They have many of the newer issues of comics as well as some old ones. They have sets of dice for Dungeons and Dragons, all of them looking extremely cool. There is this one set of dice that only show the number if a black light is shining on it. They also sell pokemon cards, some that are old and new packs as well! They have these little closed off areas to play D&D with friends that block out noise. All in all a very cool place with a lot of awesome comics! I'll definitely pay it another visit!



REMEMBER THIS...

BY GRAISON



(P.s., it still exists!) Do you know why people stopped playing this???? Well... There's a lot of reasons, like a cop who was supposed to catch a robber but was chasing a SNORLAX!! Unknown to most of existence, it still has updates, like Galar pokemon and that other region from Arceus (I never played the game), and you can actually battle.

I mean, in 2020 in the middle of FREAKING COVID WHERE THE WORLD ALMOST WENT INTO FREAKING WAR, for the release of Mewtwo Strike Back Evolutions, a Netflix remake of the first pokemon movie, they added armored Mewtwo and clone pokemon for "Go". Wow. Just wow. It was so weird that the Simpsons made a whole episode based off of it! They are a few people that still play it (mostly my friends....) and they think it's still good (.....once again, my friends.....) and they still haven't made a VR version, but there is a AR mode for the phone and iPad versions. So..... if you want to play it, you can play it on almost any mobile device. Please join the Pokemon Go club(or else....).

BEST GAME IN THE WORLD: LUMINO CITY

BY ELIZA



Lumino city is my favorite game, I've played it many times and enjoyed it every time. Unlike many other phone video games, its design is stunning. It's a puzzle game, where you are a cute little girl named Lumi, and you have to find your granddad, who went missing. You go through this city, which was all made by hand behind the scenes, to solve puzzles and help people on your way to find him. There's a sky garden, town, rotating house, moving city, and much more. The puzzles are so fun, complicated, and sometimes confusing, but you can always rely on your granddad's handyman book to help you along (it's really a clue book!!). The puzzles get harder and harder along the way, and more and more fun. You can download this app on your phone, tablet, or computer at the Apple App Store, Google Play, Mac, and Windows. I really enjoyed it. Unfortunately, it's \$4.99 but worth every penny. Please please just try this app. It's so amazing and please support the makers by getting the app and leaving a 5 star review!! Have fun!!!

PODCAST REVIEW: MORBID

BY OLIVE
ILLUSTRATED BY IZZY

I, for one, love true crime. I don't find it "relaxing" like some very strange people, but it is still very interesting. I listen to it on many different platforms, but my favorite has to be the podcast "Morbid" on Spotify. With over 200 cases reviewed, Alaina Urquhart and Ashleigh Kelley deliver the morbid facts (haha see what I did there) on many gruesome cases. There's lots of easy accessible content from a wide variety of cases. My favorite case they did was Albert Fish, however intensive that case was. It's not just crime either, they even did an edition on spooky lighthouses which was delightfully creepy. It's easy to get too! All you have to do is download Spotify, create a profile, and search "Morbid: A True Crime Podcast" into the search bar! If you already have Spotify, it's even easier. You don't even need a premium account- you can use it with a free account too! For whatever you're in the mood for, Morbid has it all.



OPINION: FLORIDA'S DON'T SAY GAY BILL IS HARMFUL TO LGBTQ+ YOUTH

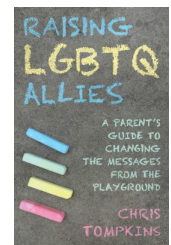
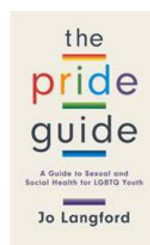
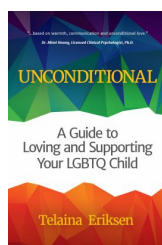
BY WILLOW

Just recently, the Parental Rights in Education Bill was passed by the Senate in Florida. Named the “Don’t Say Gay” bill by LGBTQ+ activists and inspiring controversy in the community, this law restricts students’ ability to learn about gender identity and sexual orientation up to a certain age within their classrooms. This bill could be detrimental to LGBTQ+ youth, inspiring more stigma around their identity than they are already forced to face.

The vague wording within the bill is a cause for concern, as it may allow the law to extend its influence beyond the grades explicitly stated. In short, discussion of LGBTQ+ individuals, “may not occur in kindergarten through grade 3, or in a manner that is not age-appropriate or developmentally appropriate for students in accordance with state standards.” The bill also allows parents to sue the school district if they feel the bill is not being upheld in their children’s school, and the combination of broad wording and power given to possible homophobes makes it possible for important discussions to be postponed beyond the preordained ages, as long as someone deems it not “age appropriate.”. In addition, even within the stated age limits there is a great potential for detriment. Some children may be banned from participating in certain class projects, leaving them isolated. For instance, if a child is asked in an assignment to describe their family, and they have two moms or dads, the school may be forced between not allowing the child to complete the project or the possibility of getting a lawsuit.

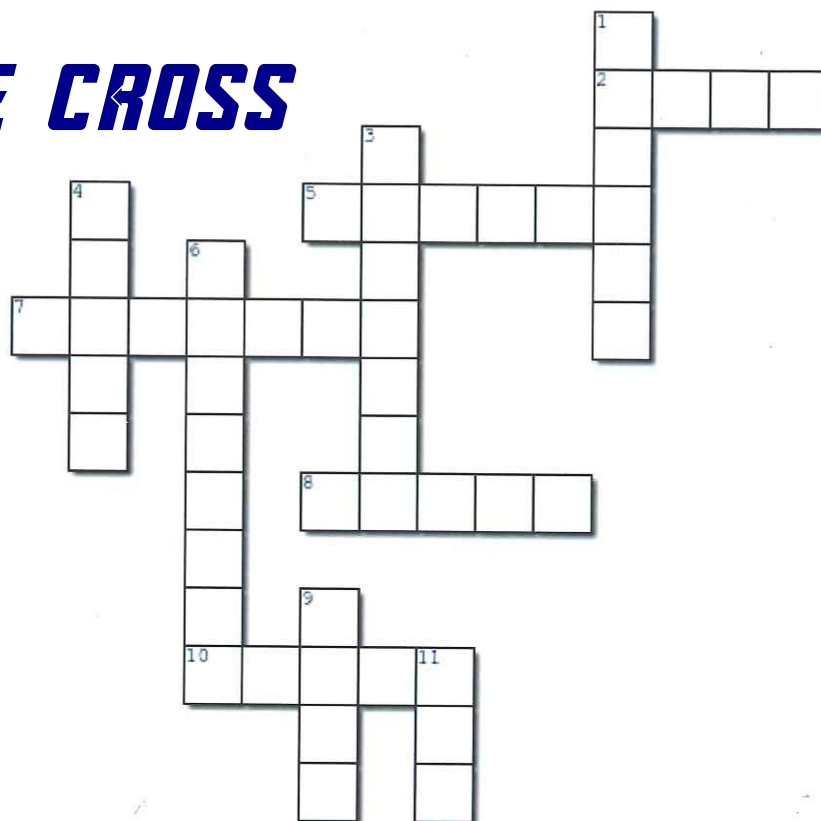
These restrictions could be very damaging to the mental health of LGBTQ+ youth, especially if the bill works its way into higher grade levels. Young people in these groups already struggle with higher rates of depression and suicide, and even more so as they move into their teen years. The bill could perpetuate feelings of isolation and repression many already feel around their identities.

Overall, the Parental Rights in Education Bill is both invasive and harmful, especially for LGBTQ+ youth and their families. We should be providing free expression and unbiased education to future generations, not repressing particular groups of people within the system. Hopefully, the activists (and writers) protesting this bill will continue to be vocal about issues similar to this, leading to positive and radical change within school districts, and in all other areas of society.



WORDS... THAT ARE CROSS

BY GEORGE



Created using the Crossword Maker on TheTeachersCorner.net

Across

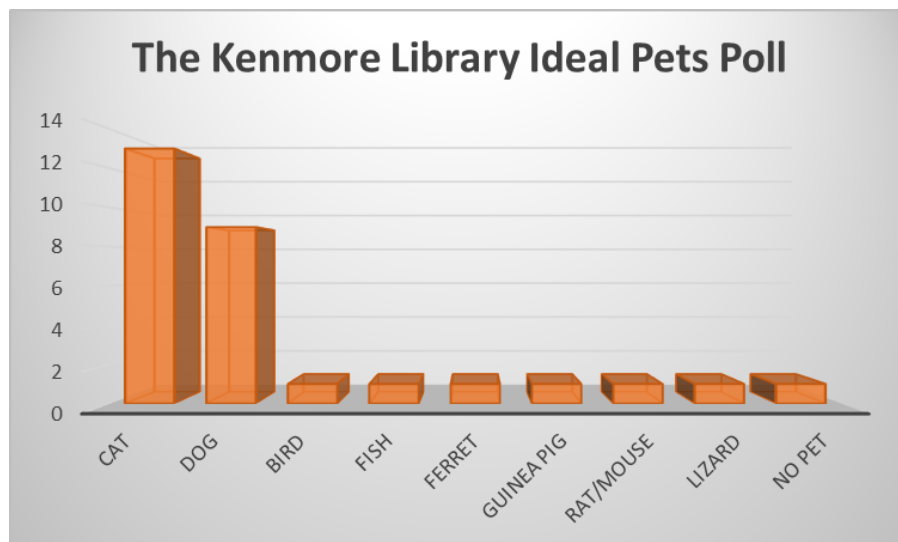
- 2. Man made areas filled with water
- 5. The season after spring
- 7. Gardens are made up of
- 8. Usually by oceans or Lakes
- 10. Lawns are made up of

Down

- 1. An activity where physical strengths are required, may be competitive
- 3. Opposite of inside
- 4. Opposite of stress
- 6. A special suit is required for
- 9. The weather outside during summer is usually
- 11. Illuminates the sky during the day

*Answer key on last page

**What's your
ideal pet?
Here's how
library
patrons
voted!!!**

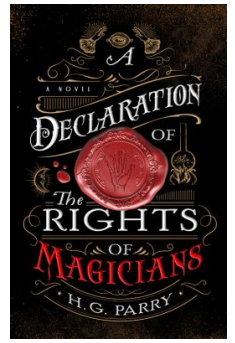


POLL-A-RAMA

BY KLN STAFF

READ THIS: A DECLARATION OF THE RIGHTS OF MAGICIANS

BY NORA



A Declaration of the Rights of Magicians by H.G. Parry is an alternate history, with the only difference between its world and ours being the existence of magic. The novel takes place during the age of Enlightenment and focuses on all the political intrigue and upheaval that plagued that period in history- from Toussaint L'Ouverture leading the slaves of Haiti in revolt to the fight for abolition in English parliament to the French Revolution and the machinations and rise to power of Maxillian Robespierre. The book is basically a blow-by-blow retelling of each actual historical event, especially the French Revolution, just with several magical twists. Despite its slow pace, the book is engaging throughout, in my opinion, though I think the length and the heavy focus on politics may put people off. It's not a novel that will appeal to everyone but if it sounds at all appealing, I highly suggest you check it out.

WATCH THIS!: UMBRELLA ACADEMY

BY GEORGE

Umbrellas are maybe one of the least important inventions ever. I mean I get not wanting to get wet during the rain but like, come on it's water, you aren't the wicked witch of the west. Anyways the show Umbrella Academy is a really good show about these adults who were all born at the same time on the same day, and for whatever reason they got these powers! Some billionaire gets 7 of these children and raises them as superheroes. I mean ok come on, that's like child endangerment, how does he still have these children under his custody. ALSO they live in a mansion in NEW YORK CITY!!! Think of how expensive that is, that man goes poor in like 2 months. Anyhow, we pick up the story when the billionaire has died and the kids all reunite to go to the funeral. At this time there are only 5 of them as one disappeared after another one of them died. The show is mainly about figuring out what happened to their father. The fight scenes are all very good, the music also amazing, and all of it on Netflix. There's two seasons currently with a third currently on the way!



Check out
the graphic
novels!

Borrow the
DVD!



READ THIS: SIX OF CROWS



BY WILLOW

Six of Crows is the first book in an excellently crafted duology by Leigh Bardugo, combining the genres of fantasy, adventure, and crime. Set in the same world as her acclaimed Grisha Trilogy, the book is witty and cleverly plotted, with characters that will capture your heart. This book will grab your attention and keep you hooked right up until the last page, and then you will go seeking obsessively for the sequel.

When seventeen-year-old master criminal Kaz gets an opportunity, he takes it. Even if that opportunity is a dangerous job requiring him to break into the nearly impenetrable Ice Court and rescue a highly-guarded captive, a task that will most likely result in his own death. Despite the risks, he is determined to pull it off, and he needs a highly specialized crew for the task. Joining him on his impossible heist is - a spy with a dark past, a sharpshooter addicted to chance, a merchant's son that has a talent for building explosives, an escaped convict with a strong moral code, and a vivacious and talented magic-user. Together, they will overcome impossible odds, staging a heist with consequences that will reverberate through their whole world, all while trying to navigate the equally perilous realities of love, loss, and betrayal within their group.

There are so many things to appreciate in this book, not only as an outstanding fantasy but as a work of fiction in general. Many fantasy stories fall into the trap of excessive world-building as a substitute for an engaging plot, but this story is an exception. While maintaining a vivid sense of place and an atmosphere of simultaneously gritty realism and brilliant magic, it also keeps the plot moving forward at a breakneck place. There are twists and turns, and scenes of intense peril, while all the time a slowly building tension lingers just beneath the surface. And there would be no story at all without the characters, who are simultaneously intensely charming and undeniably flawed. Each one's singular talent – whether it's a scheming mind, gravity-defying agility, or powerful magic – offers something fresh to the story, and a combination of witty banter and deep conversations filled with barely resolved trauma fills the gaps between nail-biting action sequences. Their choices, their weaknesses and their strengths are what drive the entire plot to its satisfying and explosive climax.

Overall, Six of Crows is an expertly written fantasy novel that has much to offer. Enchanting characters, a rich world, and a captivating plot are all factors in making this book a talented exercise in young adult literature. No matter if you're a fan of the genre or not, this story is well worth reading, and if you enjoy it, its sequel is just as engaging as the first installment.

JUST ROLL WITH IT: PRIME DEFENDERS

BY GEORGE

So last time I reviewed JRWI I mentioned that it had a Patreon campaign that I had not listened to. Well, recently that's changed so I thought I'd give my opinion on how far I've gotten. So I'm only like 11 episodes in but I've already gotten a good sense of the show. The campaign is set in the modern day but it's populated with super powered people, like Marvel or DC. So the main three characters in this one are Dekoda, William Wisp, and Vincent. Dekoda has enhanced strength and speed, William has the ability to speak to ghosts and create objects out of wisps, while Vincent seems to have the ability to switch DND classes. The story being told currently is about the three of them on a journey to become heroes and I'm really excited to see what happens next! You can listen to the campaign at any time by just pledging \$5 dollars a month at patreon.com/JustRollWithIt!

DARK RISE

BY NORA



“The Chosen One” is a very popular trope with a history that goes back centuries. Most Greek heroes were technically Chosen Ones and you could probably make an argument that Our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, was too. The trope has been used to the point where most stories containing it are extremely formulaic and most readers are sick of the archetypical paragon that this trope usually presents them with. In the last 30 years or so, “Chosen One subversions” have become more popular, usually focusing on the struggles of having such an immense responsibility and destiny. However, these stories aren’t really true subversions, since the basic idea of a Chosen One remains intact, just with a little extra added angst. *Dark Rise* is one of the few stories I’ve read that actually flips the archetype on its head, though I really can’t say anymore without spoiling it. The novel begins with Will, who has spent almost his entire life on the run after his Mother’s murder. When an old friend appears and tells him of his destiny to fight alongside a group of mythical warriors known as the Stewards, he finds himself ushered into a hidden world of magic, where he discovers that he is actually the last living descendant of a legendary sorceress and will play a vital role in the effort to stop the return of the evil Dark King. Though it may sound predictable, *Dark Rise* is a novel that will subvert your expectations at almost every turn. Combining that with Pacat’s masterful worldbuilding and dynamic and likable characters makes it a must read for all fantasy fans, specifically those with a penchant for the tragic.

DON'T EAT IT, READ IT: GINGERBREAD

BY IZZY



Gingerbread is a story with more varying layers than the enticing baked good it revolves around. Written by Helen Oyeyemi, this novel follows the life of the Lee family and the addictingly delicious gingerbread that has been passed down in their family for decades. Harriet Lee is balancing her relationship with her withdrawn teen daughter Perdita, her own aspiring reputation as a new member of the PTA in Perdita’s school, and her hobby of maintaining the Wikipedia page for the country where she grew up, Druhastrana. After all, she is the only one actively updating it, seeing as it doesn’t officially exist. However, Perdita becomes dangerously fixated on the family gingerbread, and the Lees’ lives are all thrown out of balance when Perdita is hospitalized due to a suicide attempt devoted to the pursuit of gingerbread-related transcendence. Harriet begins to tell Perdita the story of her childhood, which unravels the past of Druhastrana, the secret ingredient in Lee family gingerbread, and Harriet’s childhood friendship with an enigmatic girl named Gretel, who was among the first to encourage the gingerbread business long ago, and whose ring is one of the only tangible things proving Druhastrana’s existence. This novel is an interesting nod to the Hansel and Gretel tale, speaking more to the exploitation of children and gingerbread aspects of the tale than the child-eating aspect. It reflects on how one generation’s experiences can affect generations to come, and it paints a complex relationship between Harriet, Perdita, and Harriet’s own mother Margot- one frayed with frequent miscommunication and misunderstanding, but ultimately held together by patience and love. I enjoyed how varied this story was in tone, and how the differences in narration and perspective were constantly surprising me. *Gingerbread* would be perfect for anyone searching for a compelling realistic story to devour along with a good pastry- besides gingerbread.

SO TERRIBLE IT'S GOOD!: 90'S BATMAN MOVIES



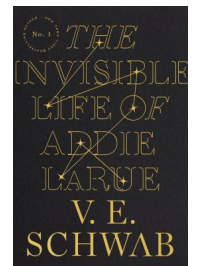
**Get them
from the
library!**



BY IZZY

Since *The Batman* has come out, a well-deserved Batman renaissance has been starting back up. But sometimes the classics are the best, and if you want to watch the most faithful adaptation of a long-running franchise, going back to the beginning is where you'll find the most satisfying and well-written content. Unless you're watching the beloved Joel Schumacher films, which are my personal favorites. The two I watched were *Batman and Robin* and *Batman Forever*, which tell the story of how Batman and Robin first met, Batman's reconciliation of his vigilante identity with the celebrity persona of Bruce Wayne, and how Batman and Robin learn to work together despite their differences. Our beloved superhero pair are also accompanied by cheesy, skin tight costumes, overly brooding camera direction, and dialogue that is basically just a call and response of the most cliché one-liners ever invented for 2 hours. Personally, my favorite parts of these films were the fight scenes (one had ice skating!), 24-year-old Robin whose main source of sympathy is that he's an orphan even though he's old enough to rent his own apartment, and actors such as Jim Carrey, Uma Thurman, and Arnold Schwarzenegger, who all act their hearts out as The Riddler, Poison Ivy, and Mr. Freeze. These movies are amazing if you just want to sit down and enjoy some good, old fashioned Batman-themed cheese, but I will admit that watching 4 individual hours of some of the most ridiculous characterization and pun-filled dialogue I've ever seen might have made me see the rest of the Batman franchise in a different, fog-machine clouded light.

MUST READ: THE INVISIBLE LIFE OF ADDIE LARUE

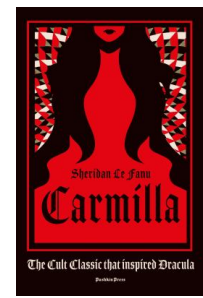


BY NORA

No one remembers Addie LaRue. It was the price she paid for immortality and freedom, an attempt to escape from the confines of her small village and a loveless marriage, by making a deal with the Devil. She has lived this way for hundreds of years and though her solitary existence weighs on her, she's used to it- or so she tells herself. Until she meets a boy named Henry Strauss, who can somehow remember her name and her face, and she starts to question if she can really live like this any longer. *The Invisible Life of Addie LaRue* is a story of dark gods, faustian bargains, love, loneliness, and the fickle nature of human memory. It's a beautiful novel, maybe V.E. Schwab's best work, and I highly recommended it.

BEFORE DRACULA: CARMILLA

BY WILLOW



Brilliant, vivid, and ominous, *Carmilla* by Joseph Sheridan Le Fanu is an exquisite work of vampire fiction that was released decades before the now-famous *Dracula*. It is eerie, dark, and unsettling, progressive for its time and yet still trapped in restrictive stereotypes. Despite flaws centered mainly on misogyny, the book is perhaps the best of a horror sub-genre now dominated mainly by cheesy supernatural romances.

Eighteen-year-old Laura lives in a remote estate in the countryside, isolated from the rest of the world. Clever, repressed, and lonely, she longs for a companion of her own age to spend her days with. When a girl caught in a carriage accident outside the gates is brought into Laura's house to recover, she thinks that her wish has been granted. At first, it seems perfect – *Carmilla* is engaging, beautiful, and equally desperate for a confidante. The girls soon have a shared and close bond, and Laura is strangely attracted to her lovely new companion. But a shadow is cast on their blossoming relationship when Laura starts to notice *Carmilla*'s strange behavior, and as the tension slowly builds and the unsettling incidents continue, she begins to wonder if her guest might have sinister intentions.

The novella embodies the paradox of being both progressive for its time and repressed by it. The two major characters are both female, and despite being written by a male author, they are surprisingly complex. Laura especially shines on the page, her character being both uncannily perceptive and undeniably youthful. Her narration is full of wonder, wit, and intelligence, and as she takes the reader through the story in vivid prose, her, her companions, and her world reveal themselves with astonishing vibrancy.

Carmilla as both another protagonist and as an antagonist is simultaneously enchanting and ominous, and yet one wonders whether she deserves the treatment she gets at the hands of the author. For the majority of the story, she lingers ambiguously on the edge between lover and villain, and yet Laura's obvious affection is enough to permit her peculiarities, and even to make the reader root for the two of them. But as the story continues to its climax, *Carmilla* is reduced to, quite simply, a fiend. The languid, sly yet doting girl is transformed into a monster by LeFanu, without much of a transition period. The modern reader might suggest that it is her relationship with Laura more than anything that is the reason the author felt the urge to do injustice to her character. Falling into a common stereotype, the writer punishes *Carmilla* for her sexuality more than for her actual crimes, without even permitting a real resolution between her and Laura. Feeding off the engrained misogyny of the seventeen-hundreds, LeFanu unceremoniously inserts random men into the equation, leaving them to dispose of *Carmilla* while Laura watches from the sidelines.

Overall, *Carmilla* is a well-written and ethereal book that still remains tremendously flawed by the engrained traditions of its time period. One can appreciate the undeniable merits of the work while still understanding its many shortcomings. This story is provocative and quietly terrifying, and a perfect read for a dark, lonely night.

KEEP WATCHING:

**(SOME MILD SPOILERS
FOR SEASON 3 WILL FOLLOW...)**

BY WILLOW

STRANGER THINGS

After almost three years, part one of the penultimate season of the hit show *Stranger Things* has finally been released on Netflix. With episode lengths ranging from an hour to almost two, this season is an exciting, nostalgic continuation of the series that has developed a very dedicated fan base over the years. The fourth installment has a lot of things (strange and stranger) to offer, but there are still many flaws, namely excessive gore and the failure to create entirely satisfying character arcs for beloved characters.

Following the events of season 3, the Hawkins gang has been separated by tragedy and changing circumstances. Joyce and her kids, plus Eleven, are in California, where a powerless El especially is struggling to adapt. Meanwhile, back in Indiana Max is suffering depression, and Lucas is moving away from D&D in favor of the cool kids on the basketball team. All the while, unbeknownst to the rest of the world Hopper is alive! – but trapped in a prison camp in Russia. When a supernatural being threatens to upend the already tenuous normalcy, the characters must come together to fight for the fate of the world.

This season has proved itself to be exciting and addictive, but perhaps not entirely satisfying. For one thing, it has fallen into the trap of excessive violence in place of a strong story. Contorting bodies, gore and blood play a large part in every episode, to a distasteful degree unusual for *Stranger Things*. In addition, other dark and disturbing subject matter such as child murder and drug use also try to fill obvious plot gaps and make up for sometimes questionable character development. Mike seems to have lost much of his initial charm, and Eleven's story is disappointingly mediocre, not at all deserving of her as a character. However, there are a lot of strong moments in the show as well. The new cast members fit well into the story, adding something fresh and new, while a couple characters that have been absent for a while make triumphant returns. The banter between Dustin and Steve is as endearing as ever, there are plenty of nail-biting sequences for horror-lovers, and Erica Sinclair is a joy to watch onscreen. Sadie Sink also delivers a strong performance as an emotionally scarred Max, especially in "Dear Billy" (Episode 4), which might be the best episode of the bunch.

As a whole, there is plenty to love and a lot to question in this new season. It's funny and scary, but also suffers at times from inadequate characterization and a heap of cheap thrills. Overall, it's far from perfect, but still immensely entertaining and well worth the watch.

REEL REVIEW: EVERYTHING EVERYWHERE ALL AT ONCE

BY IZZY

Have you been looking for an interesting and entertaining movie to watch in theaters? Do you like the multiverse genre, but don't want to watch Marvel movies? If so, I'd be remiss if I didn't recommend *Everything, Everywhere, All At Once*. This movie is about Evelyn Wang, who's trying to balance her laundromat business and her relationship to her family, particularly her distant daughter and elderly father. Her attempts to save her livelihood and home are interrupted by her husband from an alternate dimension, who tells her that she's the only version of herself in any timeline that can stop the evil force overthrowing the multiverse, a mysterious being named Jobu Tupaki. Also, the only way she can do that is by doing something weird, like eating chapstick, which will siphon a useful skill that an alternate Evelyn has to her. For instance, she can channel an alternate Evelyn's skill as a sushi chef to throw knives with deadly accuracy. But while she learns to use this ability to fight Jobu Tupaki's henchmen, she also has to consider what's going on in the universe she's currently living in. By waging this battle through time and dimensions, Evelyn learns to accept the life she has in her own dimension, and to connect with her husband and daughter. This movie is amazingly written, has fun and varied costumes, and features some of the best fight scenes I've ever seen. I loved how this movie wasn't afraid to embrace the absurdism of alternate dimensions, and put a really creative spin on a genre that sometimes feels like it's been done to death. *Everything, Everywhere, All At Once* is perfect if you want to watch a movie that's completely original, emotionally poignant, and very much silly.

WORTH A WATCH: MOON KNIGHT

BY GEORGE



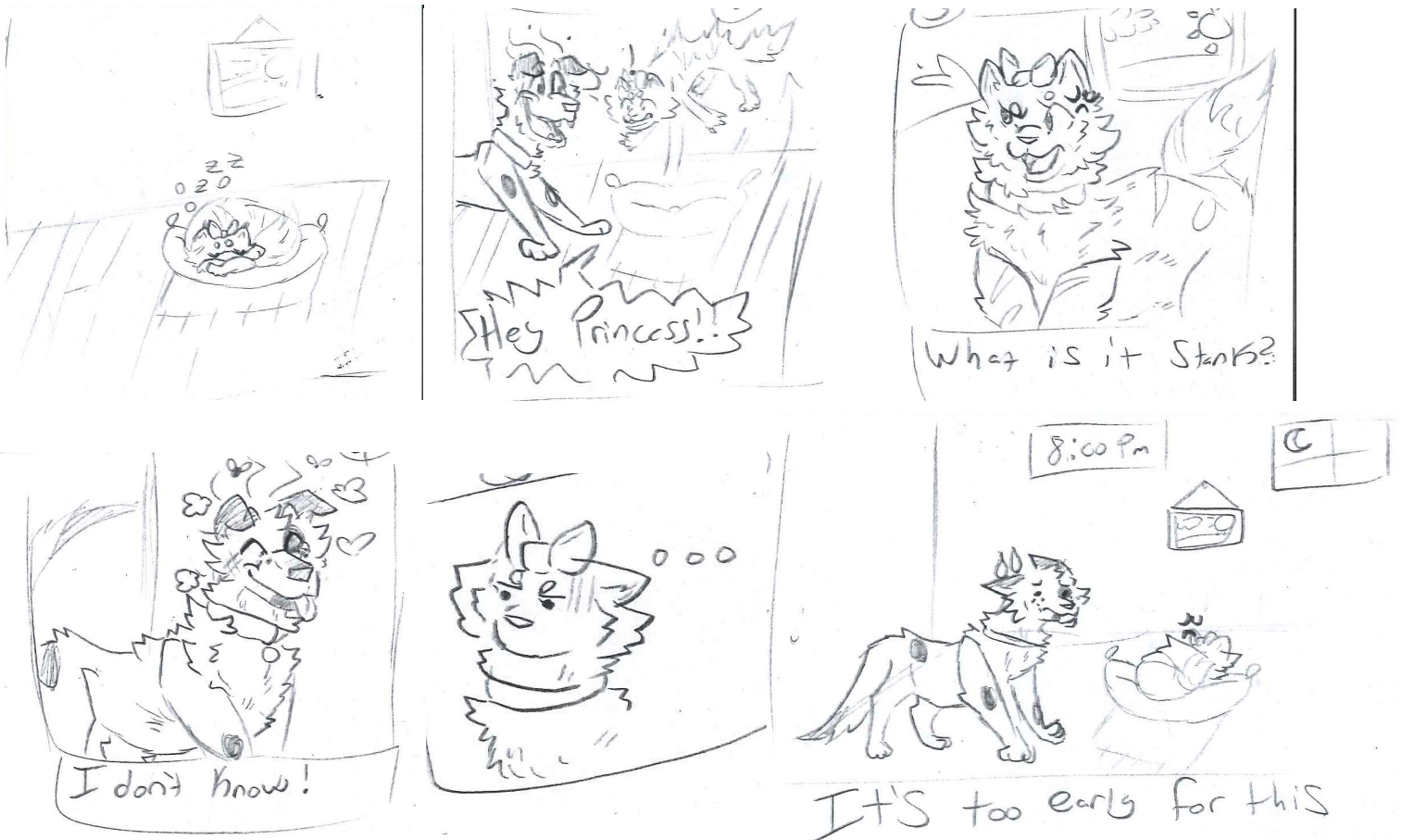
So, the latest Disney Plus show, *Moon Knight*, just finished up last week and honestly it may be one of my favorite Marvel productions so far. The cinematography was on point and the character was portrayed beautifully. If you have Disney Plus and haven't already watched it, please do! Even if you don't care for Marvel properties, it's a fun character to just disconnect from the MCU and take it as its own stand-alone show. Every episode left me wanting to watch more and kept me wondering what was next. The finale wrapped everything up super well and still made me want more. I'm super excited to see where they take this character in the future and I'm sure they'll portray him well.

HEY!!!! DON'T CONTINUE IF YOU HAVEN'T WATCH MOON KNIGHT!!

This is the spoiler review so close your eyes if you haven't seen it. That was warning two, so you're kinda lucky. *Moon Knight* was extremely good and I loved how Marc and Steven interacted. Steven was my favorite one of two and in episode 5, the ending almost made me cry. My friend, when episode 6 came out, told me to set my expectations high and they will still be broken, and he was right! I loved the fight scenes and the ending was perfect. The hints towards Jake Lockley throughout was amazing, and the reveal was even better. Ok review over have a nice day :)

SO COMICAL

BY AIDEN



NEW COMIC SERIES!

BY GEORGE

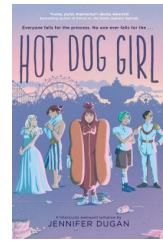
So, recently I haven't been reading many of your typical types of books but I have been reading a lot of comics. Recently I've picked up this current ongoing series called **World's Finest**, which is an old school story about Batman and Superman. The first issue immediately starts off with action and throughout the other three issues that are out now, it keeps that pace. It's an amazing read that I would recommend to anyone!



Image source: <https://www.amazon.com/Batman-Superman-Worlds-Finest-2022-ebook/dp/B095BHKCPJ>

READ THIS: HOT DOG GIRL

BY WILLOW



Hot Dog Girl by Jennifer Dugan is one of the few truly positive books written for young adults in this day and age. Funny, touching, and indescribably awkward, it embodies all the best aspects of a teenage romance. It's a comedy, a love story, and most importantly, a story about accepting yourself, flaws and all.

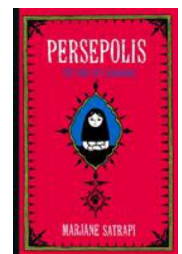
Elouise (Lou) works at an amusement park called Magic Castle Playland, but her summer thus far has been less than magical. For one thing, she got landed with the dancing hot dog costume...again. (And she happens to be a vegetarian.) For another, she has a huge crush on the park's resident diving pirate, Nick, but he's already got a girlfriend, so he's off-limits. And third, and most importantly, this is going to be Magic Castle Playland's last summer open. Nonetheless, Lou is determined to make this summer one to remember for the rest of her life. She enlists her best friend Seeley in a fake-dating scheme in order to get closer to Nick, juggles her emotions with her duties as a hot dog, all while searching for a way to keep the park open. Can her summer be everything she dreamed, or will Lou's own ambitions get in the way?

The small-town setting and relatable characters sparkle in this upbeat rom-com. Lou can be selfish and bossy, but her internal voice is laced with wit and warmth enough to insure that the reader is invested in her story. Despite her mistakes and flaws, she captures sympathy and affection, and the supporting characters around her are equally likable. Seeley especially rules as Lou's best friend/romantic interest. The plot is engaging but predictable - the fake-dating story is considered a tried-and-true trope of the young adult romance - but the book stays original enough not to provoke exasperation. Besides, Lou and her friends are a treat enough to keep the reader turning pages.

Overall, if you're looking for a light, romantic and feel-good read, Hot Dog Girl is a perfect choice. Without the singularly fatalistic worldview that many young adult books take, the simple enjoyment of reading this story is a refreshing change. With a cast of princesses, pirates, and one determined hot dog, the summer magic of this story is tangible.

MUST READ GRAPHIC NOVEL: PERSEPOLIS

BY IZZY



If someone- maybe me later- had to make a list of the most timeless graphic novels, Marjane Satrapi's Persepolis would absolutely be towards the top. The novel is illustrated with striking black-and-white panels emphasizing some of the biggest turning points of the Islamic Revolution in the eyes of a little girl adjusting to the changes in her daily life, and is an autobiographical account of political and domestic rebellion against social inequality and governmental tyranny. I loved this story because of how charismatic and spirited Marjane is as both a young girl and an adult, and how it chronicles not only the events of the Islamic Revolution, but how the impacts of being an immigrant from the Islamic Revolution affect her in adulthood. This graphic novel series is informational, comedic, heartwarming, and heartrending all in one fell swoop.

BACK PAGE MEMES

BY GRAISON

**I made my own memes because I was bored.....
I had to think of some thing to make and the I thought
of the drip goku meme and....welllllllllllll**



HEY! THIS IS FUNNY!!!!!!!!!!!!!! Ok,ok I'll do another one.

When a game allows advanced character customization



WILL YOU JUST LAUGH ALREADY!!

You know what? I'm just going to do this every issue.

HOW ABOUT THAT????!!????!!!!????!!??!!?!!!!????!?!?!?!!!?



***Answer Key to Words... That Are Cross**

Across: 2= Pond, 5= Summer, 7= Flowers, 8= Beach, 10= Grass

Down: 1= Sports, 3= Outside, 4= Relax, 6= Swimming, 9= Warm, 11= Sun

KLN ZINE STAFF

GEORGE

ISABELA

Nora

WILLOW

Eliza

Grailery

olive

GRAISON



AIDEN

QUARTZ